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PCT/EP 03/11035



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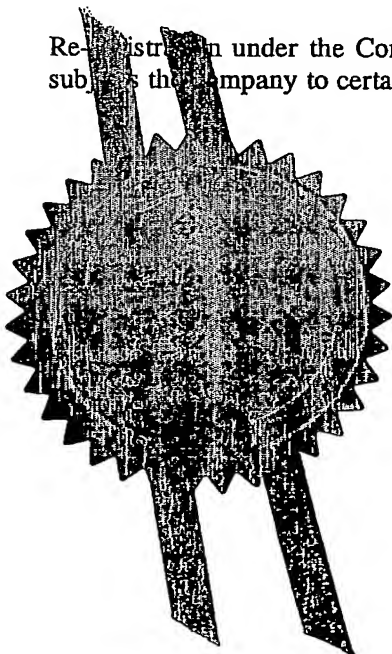
PCT

I, the undersigned, being an officer duly authorised in accordance with Section 74(1) and (4) of the Deregulation & Contracting Out Act 1994, to sign and issue certificates on behalf of the Comptroller-General, hereby certify that annexed hereto is a true copy of the documents as originally filed in connection with the patent application identified therein.

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Patents Form 1/77

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The Patent Office

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Request for grant of a patent

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

The Patent Office

Cardiff Road
Newport
Gwent NP10 8QQ

1. Your reference	4-32662P1
2. Patent application number (The Patent Office will fill in this part)	0223223.9
3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)	NOVARTIS AG LICHTSTRASSE 35 4056 BASEL SWITZERLAND
Patent ADP number (if you know it)	
If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation	SWITZERLAND

071254 87005

4. Title of invention	Organic compounds
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5. Name of your agent (if you have one)	Novartis Pharmaceutica UK Limited Patents and Trademarks Wimblehurst Road Horsham West Sussex RH12 5AB
"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)	B.A. YORKE & CO. CHARTERED PATENT AGENTS COOMB HOUSE, 7 ST. JOHN'S ROAD ISLEWORTH MIDDLESEX TW7 6NH

Global
Gm
23.10.02

Patents ADP number (if you know it)	1800001
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6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number	Country	Priority application number (if you know it)	Date of filing (day/month/year)
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7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application	Number of earlier application	Date of filing (day/month/year)
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8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:	Yes
a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or	
b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or	
c) any named applicant is a corporate body.	
(see note (d))	

9. Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form. Do not count copies of the same document

Continuation sheets of this form

Description 22

Claim(s) 4

Abstract

Drawing(s)

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (*Patents Form 7/77*)

Request for preliminary examination and search (*Patents Form 9/77*)

Request for substantive examination (*Patents Form 10/77*)

Any other documents (*please specify*)

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application

Signature

Date

B.A. Yorke & Co

B.A. Yorke & Co.

07 October 2002

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

Mrs. E. Cheetham

020 8560 5847

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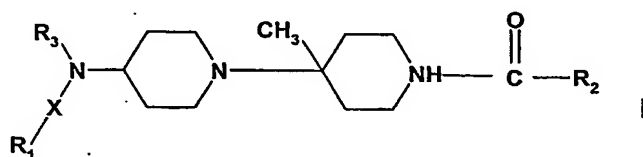
Notes

- If you need help to fill in this form or you have any questions, please contact the Patent Office on 0645 500505.
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Organic Compounds

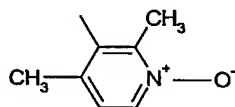
The present invention relates to piperidine derivatives, process for their production, their uses and pharmaceutical compositions containing them.

More particularly, the present invention provides a compound of formula I



wherein

1) R_2 is a residue of formula



and

a) R_1 is thienyl, furyl, thiazolyl or 2-methyl-thiazolyl,

X is $-CH_2-$, and

R_3 is benzo[1,3]dioxol-yl or phenyl optionally monosubstituted by halogen,

or

b) R_1 is phenyl substituted by $-SO_2CH_3$ or CN

X is $-CH_2-$, and

R_3 is phenyl

or

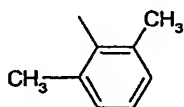
c) R_1 is phenyl

X is a direct bond, and

R_3 is pyridyl,

or

2) R_2 is a residue of formula



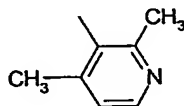
and

- a) R_1 is pyridyl, phenyl optionally substituted by carboxy or C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl, 2-methylthiazolyl, indolyl or benzimidazol-2-yl,
 X_1 is $-CH_2-$ or $-CH_2-CH_2-$, and
 R_3 is phenyl optionally substituted by Hal,
or

- a) R_1 is phenyl
 X is a direct bond
 R_3 is pyridyl,
or

- b) R_1 is 2-methyl-thiazolyl,
 X is $-CH_2-$, and
 R_3 is 1-methyl-indolyl
or

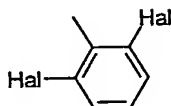
3) R_2 is a residue of formula



and

- a) R_1 is 2-methyl-thiazolyl
 X is $-CH_2-$, and
 R_3 is phenyl substituted by halogen
or
b) R_1 is pyridyl
 X is a direct bond, and
 R_3 is phenyl
or

4) R_2 is a residue of formula



wherein Hal is F or Cl,

and

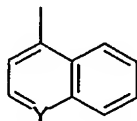
- a) R_1 is phenyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is pyridyl

or

b) R_1 is pyridyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is phenyl

or

5) R_2 is a residue of formula



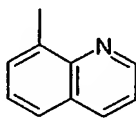
wherein Y is $-C=$ or $-N=$

and

R_1 is pyridyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is phenyl,

or

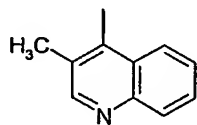
6) R_2 is a residue of formula



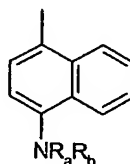
X is a direct bond and one of R_1 and R_3 is phenyl and the other is pyridyl,

or

7) R_2 is a residue of formula



or

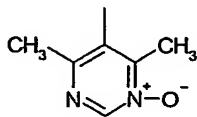


wherein each of R_a and R_b , independently, is H, CH_3 or C_2H_5 , R_1 and R_3 are phenyl,

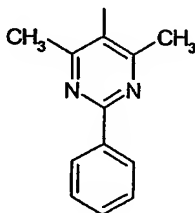
and X is a direct bond

or

8) R_2 is a residue of formula



or



R_1 is pyridyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is phenyl,

or

- 9) R_2 is indol-4-yl, R_1 is pyridyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is phenyl,
in free form or in salt form.

Halogen is F, Cl, Br or I. Phenyl monosubstituted by halogen is preferably para substituted.

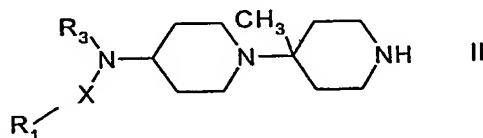
When phenyl is substituted by carboxy or C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl, it is preferably in position meta.

Indolyl is preferably 3-indolyl.

The compounds of formula I may exist in free form or in salt form, e.g. addition salts with e.g. organic or inorganic acids, for example, hydrochloric acid, acetic acid when e.g. R_1 , R_2 , and /or R_3 comprises an optionally substituted amino group or a heterocyclic residue which can form addition salts. The compounds of formula I have one or more asymmetric centers in the molecule, and the present invention is to be understood as embracing the various optical isomers, as well as racemates, diastereoisomers and mixtures thereof.

The present invention also includes a process for the preparation of a compound of formula I which process comprises

- a) amidating a compound of formula II

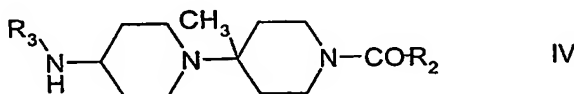


wherein R_1 , R_3 and X are as indicated above
with a compound of formula III

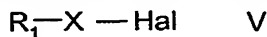


wherein R_2 is as defined above, A is a leaving group, e.g. Cl or Br; or

- b) reacting a compound of formula IV



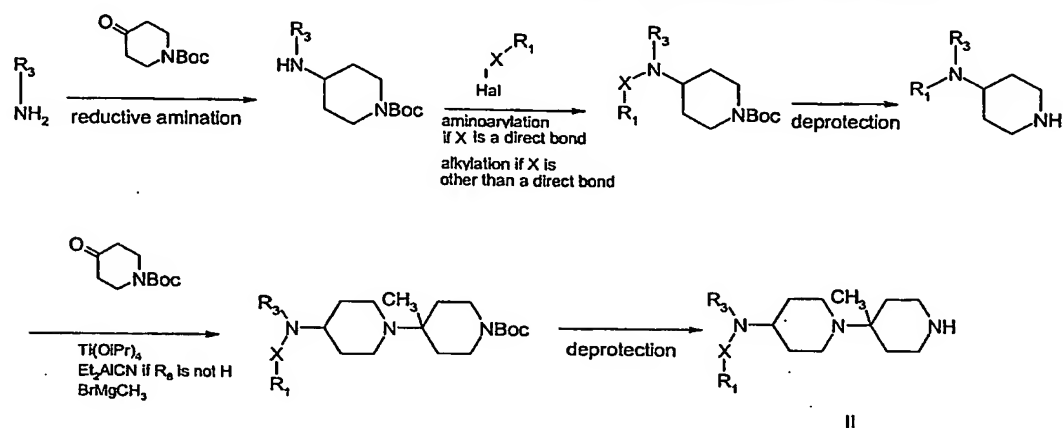
wherein R_2 and R_3 are as defined above, with a compound of formula V



wherein R_1 and X are as defined above;
and, where required, converting the resulting compound of formula I obtained in free form into the desired salt form, or vice versa.

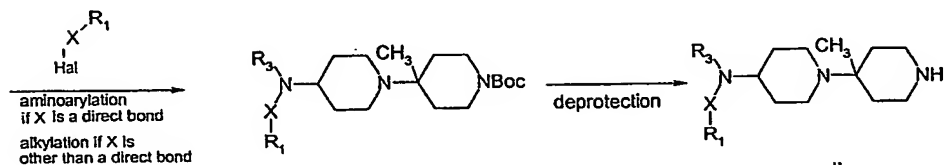
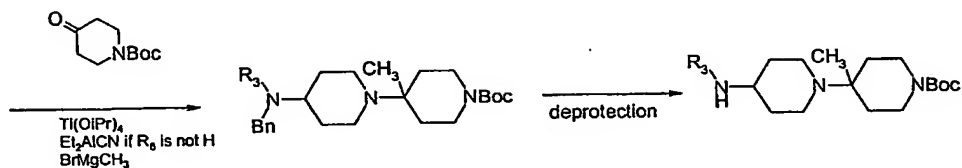
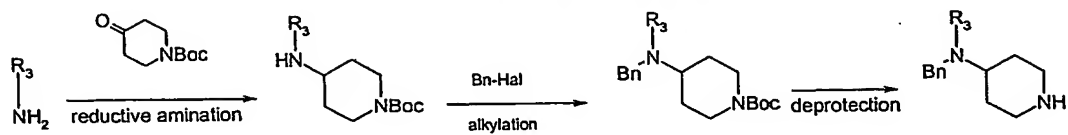
The reaction steps a) or b) may be performed in accordance with methods known in the art or as disclosed in the Examples below.

Compounds of formula II, used as starting material may be prepared as follows:



wherein X , R_1 and R_3 are as defined above and Hal is Cl, Br or I. In above formulae, Boc is a protecting group which means tert.-butoxycarbonyl. This protecting group may be replaced in above reaction scheme by any amino protecting group, e.g. as disclosed in "Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis" by T. W. Greene, J. Wiley & Sons NY, 2nd ed., Chapter 7, 1991 and references therein, e.g. benzyloxycarbonyl or 9-fluorenylmethoxy carbonyl.

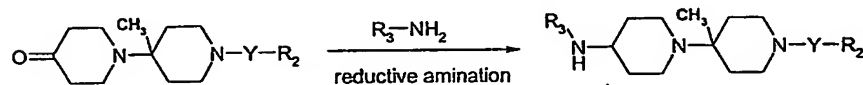
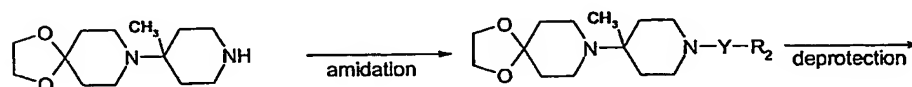
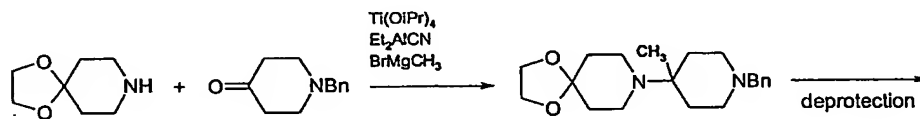
Alternatively, compounds of formula II may be prepared as follows:



II

wherein R_1 , R_3 , X and Hal are as herein defined and Bn is benzyl.

Compounds of formula IV, used as starting material, may be prepared as follows:



IV

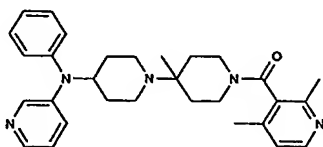
wherein R_2 , R_3 , Y and Bn are as defined above.

Above reactions may be carried out in accordance with methods known in the art or as disclosed hereafter.

Insofar as the production of the starting materials is not particularly described, the compounds are known or may be prepared analogously to methods known in the art or as described hereafter.

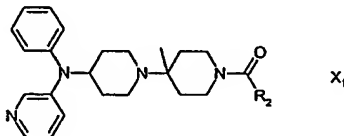
The following Examples are illustrative of the invention, without limitation.

Example 1: (2,4-Dimethyl-pyridin-3-yl)-[4'-methyl-4-(phenyl-pyridin-3-yl-amino)-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-yl]-methanone



It is prepared from (4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl)-phenyl-pyridin-3-yl-amine and 2,4-dimethyl-nicotinic acid using a procedure as described for Example 1 of International patent application PCT/EP02/03871 MS/ESI 484 $[M+H]^+$. (4'-Methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl)-phenyl-pyridin-3-yl-amine used as starting material can be prepared from *tert*-Butyl 4-phenylaminopiperidine-1-carboxylate and 3-bromopyridine using procedures as described in Example 1a – 1d of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 351 $[M+H]^+$







By following the procedure as disclosed in example 1, the compounds of formula X_1



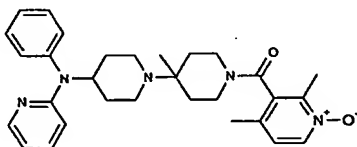
wherein R_2 has the significances as indicated in Table 1, may be prepared.

Table 1

Example	R_2	MS/ESI $(M+H)^+$
2		561

3		505
4		523/525
5		506
6		506
7		501
8		491

Example 9: (2,4-Dimethyl-1-oxy-pyridin-3-yl)-[4'-methyl-4-(phenyl-pyridin-2-yl-amino)-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl]-methanone



Is prepared from (4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-phenyl-pyridin-2-yl-amine and 2,4-dimethyl-1-oxy-nicotinic acid using a procedure as described for Example 1 above. MS/ESI 500 [M+H]⁺.

(4'-Methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-phenyl-pyridin-2-yl-amine used as starting material can be prepared from *tert*-butyl 4-(phenyl-pyridin-2-ylamino)piperidine-1-carboxylate using a procedure as described Example 1b – 1d of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 351 [M+H]⁺.

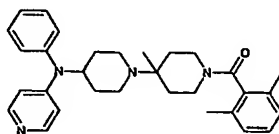
tert-Butyl 4-(phenyl-pyridin-2-ylamino)piperidine-1-carboxylate may be prepared as follows:

A mixture of *tert*-Butyl 4-phenylamino-piperidine-1-carboxylate (0.8g; 3mmol), 2-bromopyridine (0.3ml; 3mmol), tris(dibenzylideneacetone)-di-palladium (0) (0.27g, 0.3mmol), 9,9-dimethyl-bi(diphenylphosphine)xanthene (0.26g, 0.45mmol) and potassium *tert*-butoxide (3ml, 1mol solution in THF) in toluene (30ml) is heated to 110°C for 15h. The cooled mixture is filtered and the filtrate is diluted with ethyl acetate. The filtrate is washed with sodium

hydrogen carbonate and brine and dried with sodium sulfate. The solvent is removed and the residue is recrystallized from acetonitrile to afford the title compound as a brown solid.

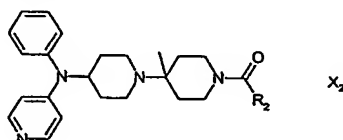
MS/ESI 354 [M+H]⁺

Example 10: (2,6-Dimethyl-phenyl)-[4'-methyl-4-(phenyl-pyridin-4-yl-amino)-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl]-methanone



It is prepared from (4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-phenyl-pyridin-4-yl-amine and 2,6-dimethyl-benzoic acid using a procedure as described in above Example 1. MS/ESI 483 [M+H]⁺. (4'-Methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-phenyl-pyridin-4-yl-amine used as starting material can be prepared from *tert*-butyl 4-phenylaminopiperidine-1-carboxylate and 4-bromopyridine hydrochloride using procedures as described in Example 1a – 1d of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 351 [M+H]⁺

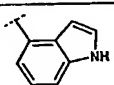
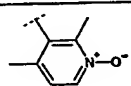
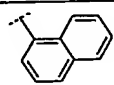
By following the procedure as disclosed in example 10, the compounds of formula X₂



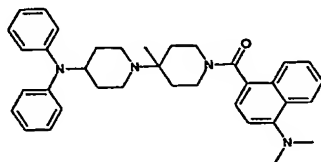
wherein R₂ has the significances as indicated in Table 2, may be prepared.

Table 2

Example	R ₂	MS/ESI (M+H) ⁺
11		491
12		506
13		523 / 525

14		494
15		500
16		505

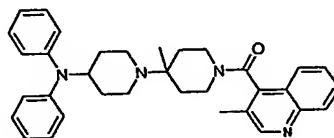
Example 17: (4-Dimethylamino-naphthalen-1-yl)-(4-diphenylamino-4'-methyl[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-yl)-methanone



It is prepared from (4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl)-diphenyl-amine and 4-Dimethylamino-naphthalene-1-carboxylic acid using a procedure as described in above Example 1. MS/ESI 547 [M+H]⁺. 4'-Methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl)-diphenyl-amine used as starting material may be prepared using a procedure as described in Example 1a – 1d of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 350 [M+H]⁺

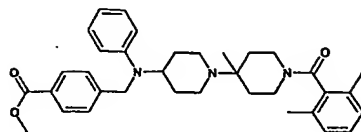
Example 18:

By following the procedure as disclosed in example 17, the compound of formula



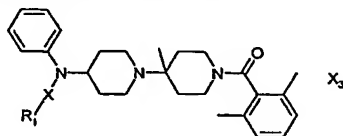
may be prepared. MS/ESI (M+H)⁺ 519

Example 19: 4-({[1'-(2,6-Dimethyl-benzoyl)-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl]-phenyl-amino}-methyl)-benzoic acid methyl ester



It is prepared from (2,6-dimethyl-phenyl)-(4'-methyl-4-phenylamino-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-yl)-methanone and 4-bromomethyl-benzoic acid methyl ester using a procedure as described for Example 52 of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 554 $[M+H]^+$. (2,6-Dimethyl-phenyl)-(4'-methyl-4-phenylamino-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-yl)-methanone used as starting material may be prepared using a procedure similar to that described in Example 51a – e of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 406 $[M+H]^+$

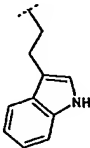
By following the procedure as disclosed in example 19, the compounds of formula X_3



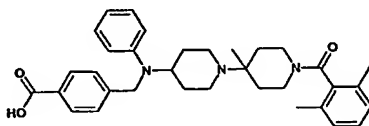
wherein $-X-R_1$ has the significances as indicated in Table 3, may be prepared.

Table 3

Example	$X-R_1$	MS/ESI $(M+H)^+$
20		554
21		497
22		536
23		510

24		549
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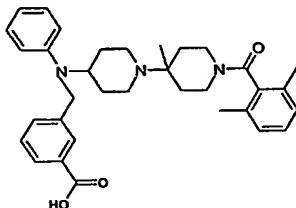
Example 25: 4-([1'-(2,6-Dimethyl-benzoyl)-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl]-phenyl-amino)-methyl)-benzoic acid



A mixture of 4-([1'-(2,6-Dimethyl-benzoyl)-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl]-phenyl-amino)-methyl)-benzoic acid methyl ester (180 mg, 0.325 mmol), methanol (10 ml), water (3 ml) and LiOH (200 mg, 8.33 mmol) was heated under reflux for 2 h. The pH was adjusted to 1 with 2 N HCl and then to pH 7 with NaHCO₃. The mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate and dried with Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated and the residue crystallized from methanol/water to give 4-([1'-(2,6-Dimethyl-benzoyl)-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl]-phenyl-amino)-methyl)-benzoic acid. MS/ESI 540 [M+H]⁺

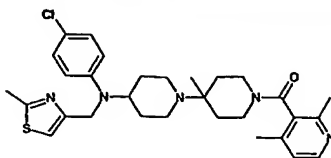
Example 26:

By following the procedure as disclosed in Example 25, the compound of formula



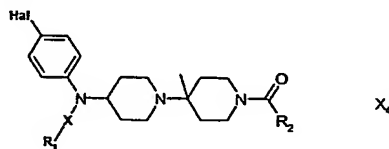
may be prepared. MS/ESI (M+H)⁺ 540

Example 27: {4-[(4-Chloro-phenyl)-(2-methyl-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)-amino]-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-yl}-(2,4-dimethyl-pyridin-3-yl)-methanone



It is prepared from (4-chloro-phenyl)-(4'-methyl-[1,4]bipiperidiny-4-yl)-(2-methyl-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)-amine and 2,4-dimethyl-nicotinic acid using a procedure as described in Example 1 of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 552 [M+H]⁺. (4'-Methyl-[1,4]bipiperidiny-4-yl)-phenyl-pyridin-3-yl-amine used as starting material can be prepared from 4-chloro-phenylamine, 4-oxo-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester and 4-chloromethyl-2-methyl-thiazole using procedures as described in Example 51e, 52, 1b, 1c and 1d of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 419 [M+H]⁺

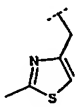
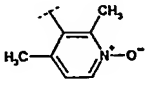
By following the procedure as disclosed in Example 27, and by using the corresponding 4-halogeno-phenylamines, the corresponding 4-chloromethyl-thiazoles and the corresponding carboxylic acids the compounds of formula X₄



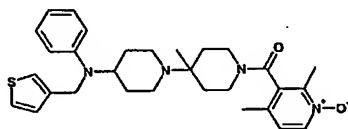
wherein X-R₁, R₂ and Hal have the significances as indicated in Table 4, may be prepared.

Table 4

Example	X-R ₁	R ₂	Hal	MS/ESI (M+H) ⁺
28			F	536
29			Cl	551
30			F	535
31			Cl	568

32			F	552
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Example 33: (2,4-Dimethyl-1-oxy-pyridin-3-yl)-[4'-methyl-4-(phenyl-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-amino)-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-yl]-methanone

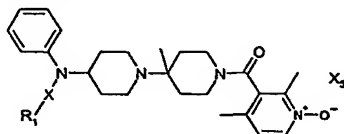


It is prepared from (4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl)-phenyl-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-amine and 2,4-dimethyl-1-oxy-nicotinic acid using a procedure as described in Example 1 of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 519 [M+H]⁺.

(4'-Methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl)-phenyl-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-amine used as starting material may be prepared as follows:

- 4-(Benzyl-phenyl-amino)-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester may be obtained from benzyl-phenyl-piperidin-4-yl-amine and 4-oxo-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester using a procedure as in Example 1c of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 464 [M+H]⁺
- 4'-Methyl-4-phenylamino-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester is prepared by heating a mixture of 4-(benzyl-phenyl-amino)-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester (4.50 g, 9.70 mmol), ammonium formate (2.60 g, 41.3 mmol), Pd(OH)₂ (20% on charcoal; 1.0 g) and methanol (100 ml) for 3 h under reflux. The catalyst is filtered off and washed with ethyl acetate. The solution is washed with brine, with Na₂SO₄ and the solvent evaporated. MS/ESI 374 [M+H]⁺
- 4'-Methyl-4-(phenyl-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-amino)-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester may be prepared from 4'-Methyl-4-phenylamino-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester and 3-chloromethyl-thiophene using a procedure similar to that described in Example 52 of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 470 [M+H]⁺
- (4'-Methyl-[1,4']bipiperidiny-4-yl)-phenyl-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-amine may be prepared from 4'-methyl-4-(phenyl-thiophen-3-ylmethyl-amino)-[1,4']bipiperidiny-1'-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester using a procedure similar to that described in Example 1b of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 406 [M+H]⁺

By following the procedure as disclosed in Example 33, the compounds of formula X₅

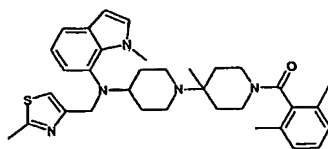


wherein X-R₁ has the significances as indicated in Table 5, may be prepared.

Table 5

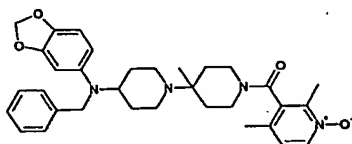
Example	X-R ₁	MS/ESI (M+H) ⁺
34		591
35		538
36		538
37		503
38		520
39		538

Example 40: (2,6-Dimethyl-phenyl)-{4'-methyl-4-[(1-methyl-1H-indol-7-yl)-(2-methyl-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)-amino]-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl}-methanone



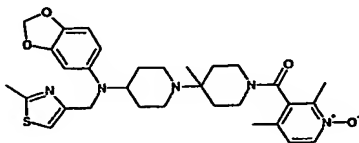
It is prepared from (2,6-dimethyl-phenyl)-[4'-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1H-indol-7-ylamino)-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl]-methanone and 4-chloromethyl-2-methyl-thiazole using a procedure as described for Example 52 of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 570 [M+H]⁺. (2,6-Dimethyl-phenyl)-[4'-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1H-indol-7-ylamino)-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl]-methanone used as starting material may be prepared from 1'-(2,6-dimethyl-benzoyl)-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-one and 1-methyl-1H-indol-7-ylamine using a procedure as described in Example 51e of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 459 [M+H]⁺. 1'-(2,6-Dimethyl-benzoyl)-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-one may be prepared using a procedure as described in Example 51a-d of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 329 [M+H]⁺.

Example 41: 4-(Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-benzyl-amino)-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl)-(2,4-dimethyl-1-oxy-pyridin-3-yl)-methanone



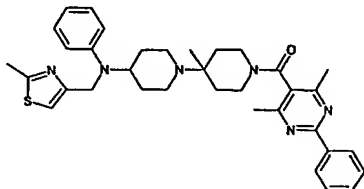
It is prepared from benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-benzyl-(4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-amine and 2,4-dimethyl-1-oxy-nicotinic acid using a procedure as described in Example 1 of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 557 [M+H]⁺. Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-benzyl-(4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-amine used as starting material can be prepared from benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylamine, 4-oxo-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester and benzyl chloride using procedures as described in Examples 51e, 52, 1b, 1c and 1d of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 408 [M+H]⁺

Example 42: 4-[Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-(2-methyl-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)-amino]-4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl)-(2,4-dimethyl-1-oxy-pyridin-3-yl)-methanone



It is prepared from benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-(4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-(2-methyl-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)-amine and 2,4-dimethyl-1-oxy-nicotinic acid using a procedure as described for Example 1 of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 557 [M+H]⁺. Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-(4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-(2-methyl-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)-amine used as starting material can be prepared from benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylamine, 4-oxo-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester and 4-chloromethyl-2-methyl-thiazole using procedures as described in Examples 51e, 52, 1b, 1c and 1d of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 429 [M+H]⁺

Example 43: (4,6-Dimethyl-2-phenyl-pyrimidin-5-yl)-{(4'-methyl-4-[(2-methyl-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)-phenyl-amino]-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-1'-yl)-methanone



It is prepared from (4'-methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-(2-methyl-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)-phenyl-amine and 4,6-dimethyl-2-phenyl-pyrimidine-5-carboxylic acid using a procedure as described for Example 1 of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 595 [M+H]⁺. (4'-Methyl-[1,4']bipiperidinyl-4-yl)-(2-methyl-thiazol-4-ylmethyl)-phenyl-amine used as a starting material may be prepared using procedures described in example 83 of PCT/EP02/03871. MS/ESI 385 [M+H]⁺

The compounds of formula I in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form exhibit valuable pharmacological properties, e.g. as CCR5 antagonists, e.g. as indicated in in vitro tests and therefore indicated for therapy.

a) CCR5 membrane binding assay

Human CCR5 is used to generate stable transfectants in CHO K1 cells. Membranes prepared from these CCR5 transfectants are used in a radioligand binding assay using 125-I MIP-1 α as a ligand and the compounds of formula I are tested for inhibitory activity. The data are reported as IC₅₀, i.e. the concentration of compound required to achieve 50% inhibition of [I-125]MIP-1 α binding. In this assay, compounds of formula I have an IC₅₀ \leq 1 μ M. Compounds of Examples 29 and 36 have an IC₅₀ of 0.5 nM, respectively.

b) CCR5 functional assay – Ca²⁺ mobilization

Human CCR5 is used to generate stable transfectants in CHO K1 cells. These CCR5 transfectants are used for assessing Ca^{2+} mobilization in response to stimulation by the CCR5 ligands MIP-1 α , MIP-1 β , HCC-1(9-74) or RANTES. For the assay the cells are loaded with a Ca^{2+} -sensitive fluorochrome (Fluo3 or Fluo4). Ligand concentrations between 0.01 - 100 nM are used to induce Ca^{2+} mobilization which is monitored in a fluorometer with appropriate settings.

To assess the activity of the compounds to be tested, a baseline fluorescence reading is taken after which the compounds at the desired concentration are added to the cells and fluorescence is further recorded for a certain time to assess whether compounds show agonistic effects. Next the agonist is added to the mixture and fluorescence monitored. The inhibition of Ca^{2+} flux in the presence of the compounds to be tested is calculated from the inhibition of maximal fluorescence induced by the agonist. IC_{50} values are calculated from dose-response curves obtained with the compounds. In this assay, compounds of formula I have an $\text{IC}_{50} \leq 1\mu\text{M}$. For example, compounds of Examples 9 and 33 have IC_{50} values of 29 nM and 8 nM, respectively.

c) CCR5 functional assay – chemotaxis

CCR5 transfectants are generated in Jurkat T cells or the mouse pre B cell line L1.2. Migration of CCR5 transfectants is tested in transwell tissue chamber inserts system with the CCR5 agonist MIP-1 α at concentrations of 1-100 nM. Cells migrated in response to the agonist compared to a buffer control are quantified in a flow cytometer. The compounds to be tested are added to the cells and the agonist compartments. IC_{50} values are calculated from concentration-response curves obtained with the compounds in the presence of MIP-1 α . In this assay, compounds of formula I have an $\text{IC}_{50} \leq 1\mu\text{M}$.

d) Experiments performed in murine animal models show that vessel wall remodeling after experimental injury (e.g. induced by allotransplantation) is significantly inhibited in the absence of functional CCR5.

The compounds of formula I are, therefore, useful in the prevention and/or treatment of diseases or disorders mediated by interactions between chemokine receptors, e.g. CCR5, and their ligands, e.g. in transplantation, such as acute or chronic rejection of organ, tissue or cell allo- or xenografts or delayed graft function, autoimmune diseases, e.g. rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, diabetes type I or II and the disorders associated therewith, vasculitis, pernicious anemia, Sjogren syndrome, uveitis, psoriasis, alopecia areata and others,

allergic diseases, e.g. allergic asthma, atopic dermatitis, allergic rhinitis/conjunctivitis, allergic contact dermatitis, inflammatory diseases optionally with underlying aberrant reactions, e.g. inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis, intrinsic asthma, inflammatory lung injury, inflammatory liver injury, inflammatory glomerular injury, atherosclerosis, osteoarthritis, irritant contact dermatitis and further eczematous dermatitises, seborrhoeic dermatitis, cutaneous manifestations of immunologically-mediated disorders, inflammatory eye disease, keratoconjunctivitis, myocarditis or hepatitis, ischemia/reperfusion injury, e.g. myocardial infarction, stroke, gut ischemia, renal failure or hemorrhage shock, traumatic shock and others, cancer, e.g. solid tumors or lymphatic cancer such as T cell lymphomas or T cell leukemias, metastasizing or angiogenesis, infectious diseases, e.g. toxic shock (e.g. superantigen induced), septic shock, adult respiratory distress syndrome or viral infections, e.g. AIDS. By transplantation is meant allo- or xeno grafts of e.g. cells, tissues or solid organs, for example pancreatic islets, stem cells, bone marrow, corneal tissue, neuronal tissue, heart, lung, combined heart-lung, kidney, liver, bowel, pancreas, trachea or oesophagus. Chronic rejection is also named graft vessel diseases.

For the above uses the required dosage will of course vary depending on the mode of administration, the particular condition to be treated and the effect desired. In general, satisfactory results are indicated to be obtained systemically at daily dosages of from about 0.01 to 10 mg/kg per body weight. An indicated daily dosage in the larger mammal, e.g. humans, is in the range from about 0.5 mg to about 1000 mg, conveniently administered, for example, in divided doses up to four times a day or in retard form. Suitable unit dosage forms for oral administration comprise from ca. 1 to 500 mg active ingredient.

The compounds of formula I may be administered by any conventional route, in particular enterally, e.g. orally, e.g. in the form of tablets or capsules, or parenterally, e.g. in the form of injectable solutions or suspensions, topically, e.g. in the form of lotions, gels, ointments or creams, or in a nasal or a suppository form. Pharmaceutical compositions comprising a compound of formula I in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form in association with at least one pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or diluent may be manufactured in conventional manner by mixing with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

The compounds of formula I may be administered in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form e.g. as indicated above. Such salts may be prepared in conventional manner and exhibit the same order of activity as the free compounds.

In accordance with the foregoing the present invention further provides:

- 1.1 A method for preventing or treating disorders or diseases mediated by interactions between chemokine receptors and their ligands, e.g. such as indicated above, in a subject in need of such treatment, which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
- 1.2 A method for preventing or treating acute or chronic transplant rejection or inflammatory or autoimmune diseases, e.g. as indicated above, in a subject in need of such treatment, which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
2. A compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use as a pharmaceutical, e.g. in any of the methods as indicated under 1.1 or 1.2 above.
3. A pharmaceutical composition, e.g. for use in any of the methods as in 1.1 or 1.2 above comprising a compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier therefor.
4. A compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for use in any of the method as in 1.1 or 1.2 above.

The compounds of formula I may be administered as the sole active ingredient or in conjunction with, e.g. as an adjuvant to, other drugs e.g. in immunosuppressive or immunomodulating regimens or other anti-inflammatory agents, e.g. for the treatment or prevention of allo- or xenograft acute or chronic rejection or inflammatory or autoimmune disorders, a chemotherapeutic agent or an anti-infective agent, e.g. an anti-viral agent such as e.g. an anti-retroviral agent or an antibiotic. For example, the compounds of formula I may be used in combination with a calcineurin inhibitor, e.g. cyclosporin A or FK 506; a macrocyclic lactone having immunosuppressive properties, e.g. rapamycin, 40-O-(2-hydroxyethyl)-rapamycin, CCI779 or ABT578; an ascomycin having immunosuppressive properties, e.g. ABT-281, ASM981, etc.; corticosteroids; cyclophosphamide; azathioprine; methotrexate; leflunomide; mizoribine; mycophenolic acid; mycophenolate mofetil; 15-deoxyspergualine or an immunosuppressive homologue, analogue or derivative thereof; an accelerating lymphocyte homing agent, e.g. FTY720 or Y-36018; monoclonal antibodies to leukocyte receptors, e.g., MHC, CD2, CD3, CD4, CD7, CD8, CD11a/CD18, CD25, CD27,

CD28, CD40, CD45, CD58, CD80, CD86, CD137, ICOS, CD150 (SLAM), OX40, 4-1BB or to their ligands, e.g. CD154, or antagonists thereof; other immunomodulatory compounds, e.g. a recombinant binding molecule having at least a portion of the extracellular domain of CTLA4 or a mutant thereof, e.g. an at least extracellular portion of CTLA4 or a mutant thereof joined to a non-CTLA4 protein sequence, e.g. CTLA4Ig (for ex. designated ATCC 68629) or a mutant thereof, e.g. LEA29Y; adhesion molecule inhibitors, e.g. LFA-1 antagonists, ICAM-1 or -3 antagonists, VCAM-4 antagonists or VLA-4 antagonists; or antichemokine antibodies or antichemokine receptor antibodies or low molecular weight chemokine receptor antagonists, e.g. anti MCP-1 antibodies.

Where the compounds of formula I are administered in conjunction with other immunosuppressive / immunomodulatory, anti-inflammatory or chemotherapeutic therapy, dosages of the co-administered immunosuppressant, immunomodulatory, anti-inflammatory or chemotherapeutic compound will of course vary depending on the type of co-drug employed, e.g. whether it is a steroid or a calcineurin inhibitor, on the specific drug employed, on the condition being treated and so forth. In accordance with the foregoing the present invention provides in a yet further aspect:

5. A method as defined above comprising co-administration, e.g. concomitantly or in sequence, of a therapeutically effective non-toxic amount of a compound of formula I and at least a second drug substance, e.g. an immunosuppressant, immunomodulatory, anti-inflammatory, anti-infective or chemotherapeutic drug, e.g. as indicated above.
6. A pharmaceutical combination, e.g. a kit, comprising a) a first agent which is a CCR5 antagonist, e.g. a compound of formula I as disclosed herein, in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, and b) at least one co-agent, e.g. an immunosuppressant, immunomodulatory, anti-inflammatory, anti-infective or chemotherapeutic drug. The kit may comprise instructions for its administration.

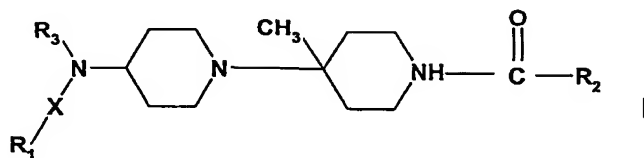
The terms "co-administration" or "combined administration" or the like as utilized herein are meant to encompass administration of the selected therapeutic agents to a single patient, and are intended to include treatment regimens in which the agents are not necessarily administered by the same route of administration or at the same time.

The term "pharmaceutical combination" as used herein means a product that results from the mixing or combining of more than one active ingredient and includes both fixed and non-fixed combinations of the active ingredients. The term "fixed combination" means that the

active ingredients, e.g. a compound of formula I and a co-agent, are both administered to a patient simultaneously in the form of a single entity or dosage. The term "non-fixed combination" means that the active ingredients, e.g. a compound of formula I and a co-agent, are both administered to a patient as separate entities either simultaneously, concurrently or sequentially with no specific time limits, wherein such administration provides therapeutically effective levels of the 2 compounds in the body of the patient. The latter also applies to cocktail therapy, e.g. the administration of 3 or more active ingredients.

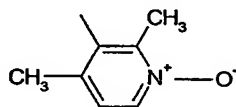
CLAIM

1. A compound of formula I



wherein

- 1) R_2 is a residue of formula



and

- a) R_1 is thienyl, furyl, thiazolyl or 2-methyl-thiazolyl,

X is $-CH_2-$, and

R_3 is benzo[1,3]dioxol-yl or phenyl optionally monosubstituted by halogen,
or

- b) R_1 is phenyl substituted by $-SO_2CH_3$ or CN

X is $-CH_2-$, and

R_3 is phenyl

or

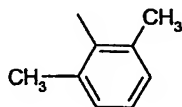
- c) R_1 is phenyl

X is a direct bond, and

R_3 is pyridyl,

or

- 2) R_2 is a residue of formula



and

- a) R_1 is pyridyl, phenyl optionally substituted by carboxy or C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl,
2-methylthiazolyl, indolyl or benzimidazol-2-yl,

X_1 is $-\text{CH}_2-$ or $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$, and

R_3 is phenyl optionally substituted by Hal,

or

c) R_1 is phenyl

X is a direct bond

R_3 is pyridyl,

or

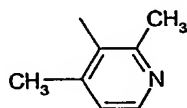
d) R_1 is 2-methyl-thiazolyl,

X is $-\text{CH}_2-$, and

R_3 is 1-methyl-indolyl

or

3) R_2 is a residue of formula



and

c) R_1 is 2-methyl-thiazolyl

X is $-\text{CH}_2-$, and

R_3 is phenyl substituted by halogen

or

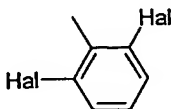
d) R_1 is pyridyl

X is a direct bond, and

R_3 is phenyl

or

4) R_2 is a residue of formula



wherein Hal is F or Cl,

and

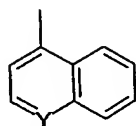
c) R_1 is phenyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is pyridyl

or

d) R_1 is pyridyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is phenyl

or

5) R_2 is a residue of formula



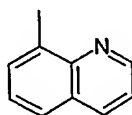
wherein Y is $-C=$ or $-N=$

and

R_1 is pyridyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is phenyl,

or

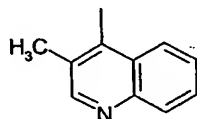
6) R_2 is a residue of formula



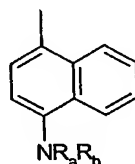
X is a direct bond and one of R_1 and R_3 is phenyl and the other is pyridyl,

or

7) R_2 is a residue of formula



or

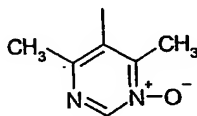


wherein each of R_a and R_b , independently, is H, CH_3 or C_2H_5 , R_1 and R_3 are phenyl,

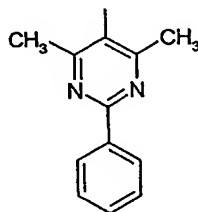
and X is a direct bond

or

8) R_2 is a residue of formula



or

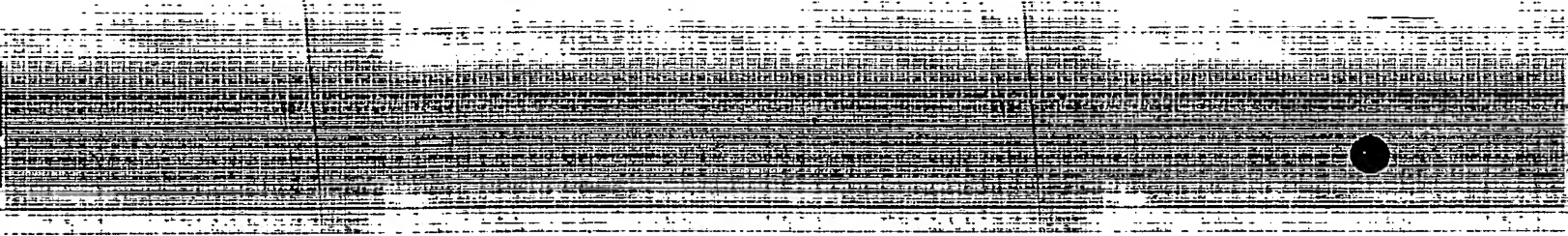


R_1 is pyridyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is phenyl,

or

9) R_2 is indol-4-yl, R_1 is pyridyl, X is a direct bond and R_3 is phenyl,

in free form or in salt form,
a process for its preparation, its use as a pharmaceutical, a pharmaceutical composition
containing such a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a method of
treatment or prevention using such a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt
thereof, or a pharmaceutical combination comprising such a compound or a
pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially as herein defined and/or described.



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